

To: James Burchett[James.Burchett@ci.bremerton.wa.us]; Tom Wolfe[Tom.Wolfe@ci.bremerton.wa.us]
From: Steven Strachan
Sent: Mon 12/19/2016 11:50:12 AM
Subject: FW: P.R. Problem with local business owner.

Jim can you start a complaint on this and Tom can you assign it out

From: Trip McConkey [mailto:(b) (6)]
Sent: Monday, December 19, 2016 11:49 AM
To: Steven Strachan
Subject: P.R. Problem with local business owner.

Dear Chief Strachan,

My name is Paul McConkey and my family has owned a small business in town since 1976. I wasn't planning on writing to you, but after reading your weekly news letters I know that you really care about your city and your police force.

On Wednesday December 14th I came in to your police department at 9:30 am to report a crime. At the time I had some printed photos taken with my phone of our surveillance monitor showing the perpetrators vehicle leaving my property with the stolen item. I also said that I had an eye witness to the crime and thanks to social media I had located the very distinct vehicle and reported where the vehicle was currently parked. I reported the address that the neighbor said the bad guy lived and the vehicle license plate number. I also told the officer at the front desk that the actual surveillance video footage was much clearer and that it would help I could make a copy of the videos.

On Friday about 9:30 am I returned to the police dept. to inquire if anyone should have contacted me by now. The front desk officer was very polite and apologized and said that someone will be contacting me soon. At 4:45 pm Sergeant Mead called me and said that he had driven by the address and the truck wasn't there and the address the neighbor had given me didn't exist. He went on to tell me that the pictures weren't very clear and we couldn't see the license plate. He asked me why did I let the guy onto my property. I explained that I have 40 video cameras and key coded gates and doors, but that during our business hours the main gate is open. His response was that I should try and figure out who he was and lock him out. I asked if I could meet with him to give him the thumb drive and he said that he would have to talk to the shift supervisor as his shift should have ended 50 minutes ago. He was obviously tired or annoyed and you could tell that he wanted to head home. I asked if I could drop off the video first thing in the morning and he said that was a good idea.

Saturday morning I came down with the thumb drive and discovered your front desk isn't open on the weekends. I was annoyed, as I would assume that Sergeant Mead knew that your front desk hours didn't include the weekend. I called 911 and one half hour later I got a call from Officer Joe Cory and he was very apologetic and said that he could meet me to get the video evidence. We had a long chat where he explained to me that it was possible if the neighbor would call me when the vehicle came back and I could call 911 that a police officer would go and talk to the perp. Since then, I have asked the neighbor to do this and I have driven past the house a few times with no luck finding the truck. Please thank Officer Cory for his patience and advice.

This morning I dropped the thumb drive off at the front desk. Sergeant Mead called me a little later. I wish I would have recorded the call, so you could have heard the tone of his voice. I asked him if he knew that the front desk wasn't open on Saturday, and he acted like any idiot would know to just call 911 and someone would, "run out and grab the thumb drive". I said that I did that and his reply was, "what else would you like me to do?" Both times that he talked to me he acted like I'm the bad guy.

You have a public relations problem with this small business owner. Years ago when your dept. asked me for surveillance video to catch a bad guy that walked down Thompson Dr. I offered every bit of help that I could volunteer. Years ago when I came it to find a man gate in my fence kicked in and surveillance video showed that it was police officers that kicked it in two nights before I did not complain, I just fixed the fence.

I believe that in this case I have done everything that I can do. I located the vehicle that is clearly the same

vehicle that drove away with my fuel tank. I talked to two of his neighbors and both said that he is a known bad guy and has caused a lot of trouble in the neighborhood. I realize that this guy will not get caught. I also realize that your crew has much more important things to do than worry about a stolen fuel tank. I would like to ask you to assign a different officer to the case then Sergeant Mead, as he has treated me with deep disrespect and he does not have either the patience or the personality to deal with the public.

Respectfully,

Paul McConkey
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